

S/N: 09/344,299
Amendment dated May 5, 2005
Response to Office Action dated Jan. 5, 2005

REMARKS

Claims 1-4, 8-17, 19-21, 24, 25, 28, 29 and 36-43 are pending in the present application. Claims 5-7, 18, 22-23, 26-27, and 30-35 have been previously canceled. Claims 2-4, 20-21, 36, 37, 40 and 41 have been amended. Claims 44-47 have been added. Claims 1 and 19 have been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 8-17, 24, 25, 28, 29, 38, 39, 42 and 43 have been allowed.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(b)

Claims 1, 4, 19, 21, 36, 37, 40 and 41 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Klayman., US Patent 4,748,669. Claims 2, 3, and 20 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were designated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In response, Applicants have rewritten claims 2, 3 and 20 into independent form. Claim 20 has been further amended to put it into better form. Claims 1 and 19 are cancelled. Claims 4, 36 and 37 have been amended to depend from independent claim 2. Claims 21, 40 and 41 have been amended to depend from independent claim 20. New claims 44-46 have been added that depend from the amended version of independent claim 3. New claim 47 has been added to depend from the amended version of independent claim 20. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the cancelled and amended claims in their original form in one or more continuing applications. In view of the amendments above, all pending claims should now be allowable. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) is respectfully requested.

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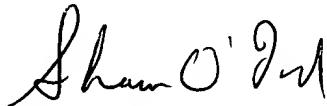
CONCLUSION

For all the above reasons, the Applicant respectfully submits that this application is in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (202) 220-4255 to discuss any matter concerning this application. The Office is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 or §1.17 to Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

Respectfully submitted,
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